In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete paragraph [000101] on page 30, and replace it with the following paragraph:

[000101] In an aspect, the ablation-promoting transgene product comprises the pro-drug converting enzyme, bacterial nitroreductase. Useful nitroreductases occur naturally within the cells of E. coli B, E. coli C and other E. coli strains (e.g. K12 type as well as other gram-negative organisms e.g. Thermus aquaticus, and gram positive bacteria such as Bacillus amyloliquifaciens and Bacillus caldotenax). A useful illustrative nitroreductase is that isolated nitroreductase comprising the **217 residue, E. coli** amino acid sequence ~~Seq. ID. 2 as~~ disclosed in U. S. Patent 5,633,158 (issued to Gillian Anlezark et al., on May 27. 1997 and which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference).

Please delete paragraph [000255] on pages 71-72, and replace it with the following paragraph:

[000255] The Nitroreductase coding region was amplified by the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). Two primers designed to hybridize to sequence flanking the gene and containing convenient restriction sites were used. The primer designed to hybridize upstream of nitroreductase contained the sequence: 5'-ATGCTCGAGCCATGGATATCATTTCTG TCGCCTTA -3' **(SEQ ID NO: 1)**. This upstream primer contains Xho I and Nco I restriction sites and optimizes the initiation site for eukaryotic translation. The primer designed to hybridize downstream of the nitroreductase coding region contains an introduced BamH I restriction site and has the following sequence: 5'-GGGGATCCGATCGATCTCAATACCCGCTAAATA -3' **(SEQ ID NO: 2)**. Amplification of the nitroreductase coding region was performed using E. coli genomic DNA in 50 μl using the following concentrations of reagents: Primers, 1.0 μm; dNTP's 200 μm each; Klentaq LA (Sigma, St. Louis MO) 1.0 μl; 1X enzyme buffer. The amplification was accomplished in a

thermal cycler programmed to heat the sample to 94°C for 1 min followed by 25 cycles of 94°C for 15 sec; 55°C for 15 sec and 72°C for 4 min. Following the amplification the product was checked by agarose gel electrophoresis and a band of the expected size (~700 bp) was detected. The expected sequence of the product of this reaction is shown in the sequence listing attached.

Please delete paragraph [000286] on page 83, and replace it with the following paragraph:

[000286] Sequence Listing of E. coli K12 Nitroreductase PCR product:
5' - atgctcgagccATGGATATCATTTCTGTCGCCTTAAAGCGTCATTCCACTAA
GGCATTTGATGCCAGCAAAAAACTTACCCCGGAACAGGCCGAGCAGAT
CAAAACGCTACTGCAATACAGCCCATCCAGCACCAACTCCCAGCCGTGG
CATTTTATTGTTGCCAGCACGGAAGAAGGTAAAGCGCGTGTTGCCAAA
TCCGCTGCCGGTAATTACGTGTTCAACGAGCGTAAAATGCTTGATGCCT
CGCACGTCGTGGTGTTCTGTGCAAAAACCGCGATGGACGATGTCTGGC
TGAAGCTGGTTGTTGACCAGGAAGATGCCGATGGCCGCTTTGCCACGC
CGGAAGCGAAAGCCGCGAACGATAAAGGTCGCAAGTTCTTCGCTGATA
TGCACCGTAAAGATCTGCATGATGATGCAGAGTGGATGGCAAAACAGG
TTTATCTCAACGTCGGTAACTTCCTGCTCGGCGTGGCGGCTCTGGGTCT
GGACGCGGTACCCATCGAAGGTTTTGACGCCGCCATCCTCGATGCAGA
ATTTGGTCTGAAAGAGAAAGGCTACACCAGTCTGGTGGTTGTTCCGGT
AGGTCATCACAGCGTTGAAGATTTTAACGCTACGCTGCCGAAATCTCG
TCTGCCGCAAAACATCACCTTAACCGAAGTGTAATTCTCTCTTGCCGGG
CATCTGCCCGGCTATTTCCTCTCAGATTCTCCTGATTTGCATAACCCTGT
TTCAGCCGTCATCATAGGCTGCTGTTGTATAAAGGAGACGTTATGCAG
GATTTAATATCCCAGGTTGAAGATTTAGCGGGTATTGAGATCggatcccc – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 3)**